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DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

NATIONAL SOCIETY

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DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

WASHINGTON, D. C.
PRESS OF GEDNEY & ROBERTS CO.
1892

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The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution was incorporated under the laws of Congress, applicable to the District of Columbia, June 8th, 1891, and by such incorporation "the Headquarters, or chief office, of said National Society was fixed in the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia."

National Board of Management.

NATIONAL OFFICERS.

Mrs. Benjamin Harrison.
Mrs. Wm. D. Cabell.
Mrs. H. V. Boynton.
Mrs. T. H. Alexander.
Mrs. A. W. Greely.
Miss Mary Desha.
Mrs. Ellen H. Walworth.
Mrs. G. Brown Goode.
Mrs. Hugh Hagan.
Mrs. Stephen J. Field.
Mrs. John W. Foster.
Mrs. F. O. St. Clair.
Mrs. Roger A. Pryor.
Mrs. John Risley Putnam.
Mrs. Henry Blount.
Mrs. Marshall MacDonald.
Mrs. M. G. Devereux.
Mrs. George H. Shields.
Mrs. Rosa Wright Smith.
Miss Eugenia Washington.
Mrs. A. Howard Clarke.
Mrs. O. H. Tittmann.
Miss Clara Barton.
Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood.
Mrs. Teunis S. Hamlin.

STATE REGENTS.

Mrs. Clifton R. Breckinridge, Arkansas.
Mrs. A. S. Hubbard, California.
Mrs. Deb. Randolph Keim, Connecticut.
Mrs. Henry Jackson, Georgia.
Mrs. Frank S. Osborn, Illinois.
Mrs. Charles E. Putnam, Iowa.
Mrs. Simon B. Buckner, Kentucky.
Mrs. A. Leo Knott, Maryland.
Mrs. Samuel Eliot, Massachusetts.
Mrs. R. M. Newport, Minnesota.
Mrs. Francis M. Cockrell, Missouri.
Mrs. Jacob G. Cilley, New Hampshire.
Mrs. W. W. Shippen, New Jersey.
Miss Louise Ward McAllister, New York.
Mrs. Mary McK. Nash, North Carolina.
Mrs. James B. Montgomery, Oregon.
Mrs. Nathaniel B. Hogg, Pennsylvania.
Mrs. Joshua Wilbour, Rhode Island.
Mrs. T. S. Peck, Vermont.
Mrs. Wm. Wirt Henry, Virginia.
Mrs. James S. Peck, Wisconsin.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Mrs. Benjamin Harrison.
Mrs. W. D. Cabell.
Mrs. H. V. Boynton.
Mrs. George H. Shields.
Mrs. Rosa Wright Smith.
Mrs. O. H. Tittmann.
Miss Eugenia Washington.
Mrs. A. Howard Clarke.
Mrs. T. H. Alexander.
Miss Mary Desha.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

ORGANIZED AT WASHINGTON CITY, OCTOBER 11, 1890.

President General.
MRS. BENJAMIN HARRISON.

Vice-President General Presiding.
MRS. WM. D. CABELL.

Vice-President General in Charge of Organization of Chapters.
MRS. H. V. BOYNTON,
1321 R Street.

Honorary Vice-Presidents General.

MRS. THOMAS A. HENDRICKS.
MRS. B. W. KENNON.
MRS. DAVID D. PORTER.
MRS. MARGARET HETZEL.

Vice-Presidents General.

MRS. T. H. ALEXANDER.
MRS. A. W. GREELY.
MISS MARY DESHA.
MRS. ELLEN H. WALWORTH.
MRS. HUGH HAGAN.
MRS. HENRY BLOUNT.
MRS. MARSHALL MACDONALD.
MRS. STEPHEN J. FIELD.
MRS. G. BROWN GOODE.
MRS. F. O. ST. CLAIR.
MRS. JOHN W. FOSTER.
MRS. JOHN R. PUTNAM.
MRS. ROGER A. PRYOR.
MRS. M. G. DEVEREUX.

Treasurer General.
MRS. O. H. TITTMANN,
1019 20th Street.

Secretaries General.

Recording:
MRS. GEORGE H. SHIELDS,
2019 N Street.

Corresponding:
MRS. ROSA WRIGHT SMITH,
1203 N Street.

Registrars General.
MISS EUGENIA WASHINGTON,
813 13th Street.
MRS. A. HOWARD CLARKE,
1527 S Street.

Surgeon General.
MISS CLARA BARTON.

Historian General.
MRS. M. S. LOCKWOOD,
810 12th Street.

Chaplain General.
MRS. TEUNIS S. HAMLIN.

Advisory Board.
HON. MARSHALL MACDONALD, Chairman.

GENERAL H. V. BOYNTON.
DR. PERSIFOR FRAZER.
REV. EDWARD EVERETT HALE.
MR. WM. O. MCDOWELL.
GENERAL MARCUS J. WRIGHT.
MR. WILLIAM D. CABELL.
DR. G. BROWN GOODE.
MR. A. LEO KNOTT.
HON. GEORGE H. SHIELDS.
MR. WILLIAM C. WINLOCK.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

NAME AND MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. The name of this Society shall be the DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

SEC. 2. All persons duly qualified, who have been regularly admitted by the National Board of Management, shall be members of the National Society, but, for purposes of convenience, they may be organized into local Chapters, as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE II.

OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

The objects of this Society are:

(1) To perpetuate the memory and the spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence, by the acquisition and protection of historical spots and the erection of monuments; by the encouragement of historical research in relation to the Revolution and the publication of its results; by the preservation of documents and relics, and of the records of the individual services of Revolutionary soldiers and patriots, and by the promotion of celebrations of all patriotic anniversaries.

(2) To carry out the injunction of Washington in his farewell address to the American people, "to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge," thus developing an enlightened public opinion, and affording to young and old such advantages as shall develop in them the largest capacity for performing the duties of American citizens.

(3) To cherish, maintain, and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to aid in securing for mankind all the blessings of liberty.

ARTICLE III.

ELIGIBILITY AND ADMISSION.

SECTION 1. Any woman may be eligible for membership who is of the age of eighteen years, and who is descended from an ancestor who, with unfailing loyalty, rendered material aid to the cause of Independence as a recognized patriot, as soldier or sailor, or as a civil officer in one of the several Colonies or States, or of the United Colonies or States; or from the mother of such a patriot; provided that the applicant shall be acceptable to the Society.

SEC. 2. Every application for membership must be indorsed by at least one member of the National Society, and shall then be submitted to the Registrars General, who shall report on the question of eligibility to the General Board of Management, when the question of admission shall be voted upon by the Board by ballot, and if a majority of said Board approve such application, the applicant, after payment of the initiation fee, shall be enrolled as a member of the National Society.

SEC. 3. All persons whose applications are approved on or before October 11, 1891, shall be charter members of the National Society.

ARTICLE IV.

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY.

SECTION 1. The officers of the National Society shall be a President General, Vice President General in charge of organization of Chapters, eight Vice Presidents General, one Recording and one Corresponding Secretary General, ~~six~~ 2 Registrars General, one Treasurer General, one Historian General, one Surgeon General, one Chaplain General, and such other officers as shall be found necessary. These officers shall be elected by ballot by a vote of the majority of the members present at the annual meeting of the Continental Congress of the Society, and shall hold office for one year and until their successors shall be elected. No officer shall be eligible to the same office for more than two years consecutively.

SEC. 2. The number of Vice Presidents General may be increased from time to time, not to exceed twenty in all, by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Management. Honorary Vice Presidents General and Honorary State Regents may be elected by the Board of Management, but all honorary and active officers shall possess the qualifications of members of the Society.

ARTICLE V.

THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

SECTION 1. The Continental Congress of the National Society shall be composed of all the active officers of the National Society, one State Regent from each State, and the regents and delegates of each organized Chapter in the United States.

SEC. 2. Each Chapter which has more than fifty members may elect a delegate to the Continental Congress, in addition to its regent, for each fifty members or fraction of twenty-five. The members of the Society in Washington and vicinity may also elect delegates in the same ratio of representation.

SEC. 3. The annual meeting of the Continental Congress shall be held in Washington City, D. C., on the 22d day of February in each year, or if that falls on Sunday the meeting shall be held on the following Wednesday. At this meeting the report of the Board of Management shall be considered; all the officers of the National Society shall be elected by ballot, and such business transacted as the good of the Society may require.

SEC. 4. Special meetings shall be called by the Board of Management, or by the President General when directed so to do by the Board of Management, or when requested in writing so to do by twenty-five or more members, representing Chapters in at least three States, on giving thirty days' notice, specifying the time and place of meeting and the business to be transacted.

SEC. 5. All Honorary and Ex-officers of the National Society may attend the meetings of the Continental Congress and participate in its deliberations, but shall not be entitled to vote.

ARTICLE VI.

NATIONAL BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

SECTION 1. The National Board of Management shall be composed of the active officers of the National Society and a State Regent from each State or Territory, to be chosen by the delegates from each State and Territory to the Continental Congress at the annual meeting. The officers of the National Society shall be *ex-officio* officers of the Board of Management. The Board shall meet at least once every four months, and at such times as the exigencies of the Society may demand, on the call of the President. Seven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

SEC. 2. The Board of Management shall have full power to manage the business of the Society, to enact by-laws, to prescribe rules and regulations for the guidance of the officers of the Society, to approve all applications for membership, to establish new offices if necessary, to fill vacancies in office till the next meeting of the Congress, and in general to do all things necessary for the prosperity and success of the Society, subject, however, to the approval of the Continental Congress; but all acts of the Board shall be legal and binding until disapproved by the Congress.

SEC. 3. A National Executive Committee of nine, of which the President General shall be Chairman *ex-officio*, shall be elected by the National Board of Management from its members, and shall, in the interim between the meetings of the Board, transact such business as shall be delegated to it by the National Board of Management.

SEC. 4. The President General may call meetings of the National Board of Management and the Executive Committee at any time she may deem necessary, and shall call such meeting upon the written request of any five members thereof, provided that not less than five days' notice of the time and place of such meeting shall be given.

ARTICLE VII.

CHAPTERS.

SECTION 1. When twelve members of the Society shall be living in one locality they may, after formal authorization by the National Board of Management, organize a Chapter. They may elect a presiding officer whose title will be Regent, and who will be a delegate to the Continental Congress of the National Society, a Secretary and Registrar, and such other officers as may be required.

SEC. 2. After a Local Board of Management shall have been established, all applications for membership shall be passed upon by the Local Board, and if the applicant shall be deemed satisfactory and her eligibility established, the application shall receive the endorsement of the Regent, Secretary and Registrar, and be forwarded to the National Board of Management for final action.

SEC. 3. The local Chapters may enact by-laws for their own government in harmony with the Constitution of the National Society.

ARTICLE VIII.

INITIATION, DUES AND LIABILITIES.

SECTION 1. The initiation fee to the National Society shall be one dollar and the annual dues two dollars, payable in advance on or before the 22d day of February in each year.

SEC. 2. The payment of twenty-five dollars at one time shall constitute a life membership and exempt the member from further payment of dues.

SEC. 3. The local Chapters shall be entitled to retain one-half of the annual dues and one-half of life membership fees paid to them, respectively, for their own use. The local Chapters may by by-law make provision for the collection of additional dues for their own use.

SEC. 4. The sum of three dollars, covering the initiation fee and the annual dues for the current year, must accompany each application presented to the National Society direct. The

sum of two dollars, covering the initiation fee and one-half the annual dues for the current year, shall accompany each application forwarded to the National Society through any local Chapter.

SEC. 5. A member who shall remain in arrears for dues for three months after notice of her indebtedness has been sent her may be dropped from the rolls by the Board of Management: but no one shall be dropped until after two notices of arrears shall have been given her.

SEC. 6. No debt or liability, except the ordinary current expenses of the National Society, shall be incurred, nor any project or plan requiring the expenditure of money shall be entered into, for which the National Society shall be responsible, except by a vote of three-fourths of the Board of Management; and every obligation for the payment of money, except checks drawn against deposits, executed in the name or in behalf of the National Society shall be null and void.

ARTICLE IX.

AMENDMENTS.

Amendments to this Constitution may be offered at any meeting of the Board of Management, but shall not be acted upon until the next meeting thereof. If approved by a majority of the Board, a copy thereof shall be sent to the Regent and Secretary of every Chapter, and to each State Regent, at least thirty days prior to the meeting of the Continental Congress of the Society at which it is proposed to be acted upon, and if adopted by a majority of the Congress, such amendments shall be in full force thereafter.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Nominations of officers shall be made from the floor, and the election shall be made by ballot. A majority shall elect.

ARTICLE II.

OFFICERS.

The duties of the general officers shall be such as usually appertain to their offices, and they shall have such other duties as are hereinafter imposed. They shall report at the annual meeting, and at such other times as may, by the National Board of Management, be directed.

ARTICLE III.

PRESIDENT GENERAL.

SECTION 1. The President General, in addition to her general duties, shall be *ex officio* Chairman of the National Board of Management and of the Executive Committee, and a member of every other committee.

SEC. 2. At each annual meeting she shall appoint the following Standing Committees:

Finance Committee,
Auditing Committee,
Printing Committee,
Revolutionary Relics Committee.

The duties of the above committees shall be such as usually pertain to committees of like character, and such as may be defined by the Board of Management.

ARTICLE IV.

VICE PRESIDENTS GENERAL AND STATE REGENTS.

SECTION 1. In the absence of the President General one of the Vice Presidents General shall be elected to preside at the annual meeting.

SEC. 2. In the prolonged absence or inability to act of the President General, the executive authority shall be vested in the Vice President General who may be selected by the Board of Management for that purpose.

SEC. 3. The Vice President General in charge of organization of Chapters shall have authority to nominate one State Regent for the first year, and two Honorary State Regents for each State and Territory, to be elected by the Board. She shall have general supervision of the organization of Chapters, in connection with the respective State Regents, and shall perform such other duties as may be entrusted to her by the National Board of Management.

SEC. 4. The State Regents shall have power to appoint the Regents of Chapters in their respective States and Territories for the first year, subject to the approval of the National Board of Management, and be charged with the active work of organization therein, subject to the general supervision of the Vice President in charge of organization of Chapters.

SEC. 5. The Regents of Chapters shall have power to appoint the officers of their respective Chapters for the first year.

SEC. 6. No State or Honorary State Regent shall be appointed or elected who is not a resident of the State she represents; and no one shall hold more than one office at the same time in the Daughters of the American Revolution.

ARTICLE V.

SECRETARIES GENERAL.

SECTION 1. The Recording Secretary General shall keep a record of all meetings of the National Society, the Board of Management and the Executive Committee; have charge of the seal; give due notice of all meetings of the National Society or National Board of Management or Executive Committee; give due notice to all General Officers and Chapters of all votes, orders and proceedings affecting or appertaining to their duties, and generally perform such acts as pertain to her office.

SEC. 2. The Corresponding Secretary General shall attend to all correspondence of the Society and Board of Management; distribute all pamphlets, circulars, rosettes and supplies as directed by the National Board of Management, and perform such other duties as may be directed by the Board.

ARTICLE VI.

TREASURER GENERAL.

SECTION 1. The Treasurer General shall collect and receive the funds and securities of the National Society. She shall deposit the same to the credit of the DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, and shall draw them thence for the use of the National Society as directed by it, or by the National Board of Management, upon the order of the President General countersigned by the Recording Secretary General. Her accounts shall be audited by a committee to be appointed at the annual meeting.

SEC. 2. She shall, if so required by the National Board of Management or the Executive Committee, give bond for the safe custody and application of the funds.

ARTICLE VII.

REGISTRARS GENERAL.

The Registrars General shall keep a register of the names and dates of the election, resignation or death of all members of the several Chapters, and shall have the care and custody of all applications for membership, duplicates of which, properly approved by the National Officers, shall be retained by the Registrars of the Chapters. The Registrars General shall examine all applications for membership, and approve the same if the applicant is found eligible; if not, they shall return the same for correction, pointing out the defects. They shall report all applications to the National Board of Management for final action.

ARTICLE VIII.

HISTORIAN GENERAL.

The Historian General shall have the custody of all the historical and biographical collections of which the National Society may become possessed, and shall catalogue and arrange the same, and shall place the same in a fire-proof repository for preservation. She shall prepare, for official publication by the Society, historical and biographical sketches of the Revolutionary ancestors of members, and of distinguished women of the Revolution.

ARTICLE IX.

CHAPLAIN GENERAL.

The Chaplain General shall conduct such services as occasion may require.

ARTICLE X.

SURGEON GENERAL.

The Surgeon General shall consider and report on the most efficient means of bettering the condition of the sick and wounded of our Army and Navy, the management of hospitals

and sanitary measures connected therewith, and such other duties as may be entrusted to her by the Board of Management.

ARTICLE XI.

CHAPTERS.

Every Chapter shall

(1) Notify the Secretary General of the election and appointment of all officers and delegates.

(2) Pay to the Treasurer General, on or before the 22d day of February, the sum of one dollar for each active member thereof.

(3) Transmit to the Registrar General all approved applications for membership for final action by the Board, and notify her of the resignation or death of any members thereof.

(4) Duplicates of such reports shall be sent by the Chapters to their State Regent.

(5) Each Chapter shall elect its Regent, Secretary, Registrar, Local Board of Management and other officers, and also its delegates to the Continental Congress, on the 11th day of October in each year, or if that be Sunday on the next day; *provided*, that all appointed officers of Chapters shall serve until October 11, 1892, but delegates to the first Continental Congress shall be elected October 11, 1891.

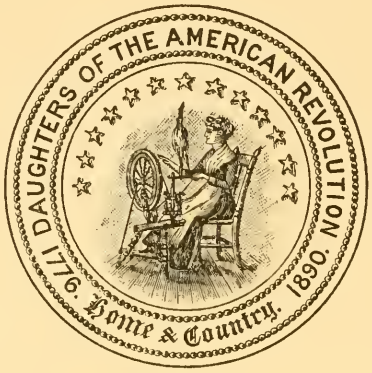
(6) Each Chapter shall be entitled, upon payment of the cost thereof, to a certificate or charter duly certifying its name, location, date, officers and organizing members, which shall be signed by the President General and Recording Secretary General, and attested by the seal of the National Society and countersigned by the State Regent.

ARTICLE XII.

SEAL.

The seal of the Society shall be one and seven-eighths of an inch in diameter, charged with the figure of a dame of the Revolutionary time sitting at her spinning-wheel, with thirteen

stars above her, the whole surrounded by a rim containing the legend, "Daughters of the American Revolution, 1776–1890," and the motto, "Home and Country."



ARTICLE XIII.

CERTIFICATES.

All members of the Society, wherever admitted, shall be entitled to a certificate of membership duly attested by the President General, Recording Secretary General, a Registrar General and the seal of the National Society.

ARTICLE XIV.

INSIGNIA.

The Insignia of the Society shall consist of a badge in the form of a spinning-wheel and distaff, to be worn on ceremonial occasions upon a bow of ribbon. The wheel is seven-eighths of an inch in diameter and of gold, with thirteen spokes and a field of light blue enamel upon its tire bearing the name of the Society in letters of gold. Upon its outer rim opposite the ends of the spokes are thirteen small stars, which may be set with precious stones at the discretion of the owner. Underneath the wheel is a golden distaff one and one-half inches long

filled with silver flax. Upon the back of the wheel the registration number of the owner shall be engraved, and her name may be added. The ribbon to be worn with the wheel is dark blue with a white edge ribbed and watered, following the colors of Washington's staff. A rosette of the prescribed ribbon attached to a stick-pin may be worn as an informal badge upon ordinary occasions.

ARTICLE XV.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

At the meetings of the Board of Management the following order of business shall be observed: 1st. Prayer by Chaplain General. 2d. Reading of minutes of previous meeting and their approval. 3d. Reports of Officers and Standing Committees. 4th. Reports of Select Committees. 5th. Unfinished business. 6th. New business. 7th. Miscellaneous business.

ARTICLE XVI.

ADVISORY BOARD.

The objects of this Society being the same as those of the Sons of the American Revolution and Sons of the Revolution, and having a desire to co-operate with said organizations, the Board of Management may elect from the members thereof an Advisory Board, for the purposes of consultation and advice as to matters pertaining to the success of the Society. The Board of Management may also elect a suitable Legal Adviser, if deemed necessary.

ARTICLE XVII.

GUESTS.

The wives of Sons of the American Revolution and Sons of the Revolution who are not eligible to membership may be included in all social events of the Society in which their husbands are invited to participate, and husbands of members of this Society who are not eligible to membership in the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution or Sons of the Revolution may be invited to participate in such events.

ARTICLE XVIII.

AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any meeting of the National Board of Management, written notice thereof having been given at a previous meeting.

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